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OGC Has Reviewed

9 MAR 1950

Mr. W. Mark Armstrong, Jr.
Special Assistant, Intelligence
Room 3126, New State Dept. Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

I regret to note from your letter of 15 February 1950, regarding my proposal of 13 January 1950 to establish an inter-departmental committee on psychological intelligence, that you find it inadvisable at this time to designate a Department of State representative to serve on the subject committee.

This Agency participates on a full time basis in the NSC 4-NSC 43 organization through its representative on the Inter-departmental Foreign Information Staff (IFIS). The question of a psychological intelligence committee was presented to that organization through my representative on the IFIS. In this respect, I was advised that the Department considered it undesirable to constitute the intelligence committee as a sub-committee of the IFIS, but that the Central Intelligence Agency could establish whatever intelligence committee it thought desirable and necessary to meet its obligations under the terms of its charter. Accordingly, and since I regard my responsibilities as being very clear with respect to psychological intelligence, I am now proceeding with the establishment of facilities needed to mobilize the foreign psychological intelligence effort of the government in support of the planning and conduct of psychological operations.

I cannot regard this step as premature from my point of view. In addition to my responsibilities under NSC 10, and the intelligence support thereof, I have existing psychological intelligence requirements to meet on behalf of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Moreover the combined NSC 4-NSC 43 organization has adopted the policy of accomplishing as much as it can pending the approval of NSC 59, and has presented to CIA the first of a series of intelligence requirements for the purpose of supporting current

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psychological warfare planning. It is my understanding that the IPIS is presently engaged in developing further intelligence requirements for the actual conduct of psychological warfare, which it intends to forward to CIA for action upon completion. In view of these existing psychological intelligence requirements, I cannot delay positive action leading toward the mobilization of an interdepartmental intelligence effort to fulfill them. I regard the Department of State, through your organization, as being responsible, along with the other intelligence agencies, for assisting me within the limits of your capabilities in this respect.

Each of the other participating intelligence agencies has named representatives to the subject committee. I am reluctant to convene the committee without representation from the Department of State, and yet I am most anxious to proceed, at the earliest possible time, to undertake the fulfillment of these outstanding commitments.

I should appreciate it, therefore, if you would reconsider the position you have taken on this matter and advise me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,
Edg.

R. H. HILLENKOTTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

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